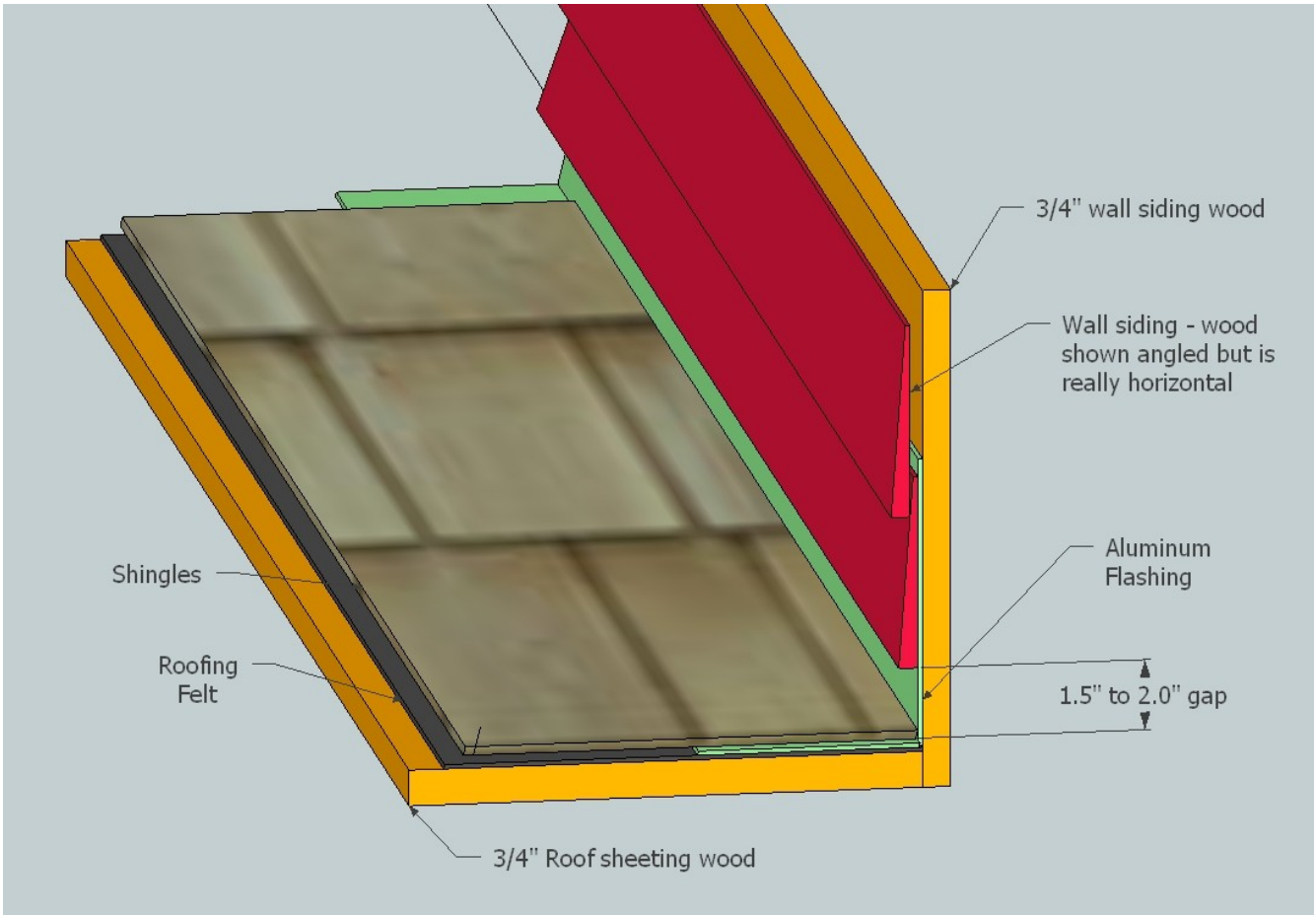
These are photos I took when I was repainting and repairing the Strevell House in Pontiac during the Summer of 2021.

These photos may be of value in future years when the house needs further repairs or needs repainted.

I painted 1 coat of the red color and 1 coat of white semi-gloss latex on the trim.

Dale C. Maley
President – Livingston County Historical Society
August 2022


3/4" wall siding wood
Wall siding - wood shown angled but is really horizontal
Aluminum Flashing
1.5" to 2.0" gap
Shingles
Roofing Felt
3/4" Roof sheeting wood

401

401

LOOKING FOR
LINCOLN
LINCOLN VISITS STREVELL
WHILE SITTING UP LATE THE NIGHT OF JANUARY 27, 1860, in the Pontiac home of Jason Strevell, Abraham Lincoln predicted he would be nominated for the vice presidency of the young Republican party. In a letter to his son in 1901, Strevell said: "The time of which I am writing was in the troublous days of slavery anti-slavery, and one portion of the was in sentiment entirely arrayed the other, the North against the South, hated condition of the public mind ulated in the clash of arms. . . ."
Strevell predicted that Lincoln would be nominated for the presidency at the Republican National Convention in Chicago on May 16, 1860 and that Stephen A. Douglas would be nominated by the pro-slavery Democrats. Lincoln responded: "I have thought that I might be named for the second place on the ticket, but not for anything higher." Strevell confided he had not seen Lincoln alive after his election, but he and his wife had received a letter "written entirely in his own hand, urging us to visit him at the White House, but that visit was never made."
"YOU CAN TAKE MY height if you wish," Abraham Lincoln told his friend Jason W. Strevell (pictured on left) while conversing with him at his home. Six-foot Strevell had indicated it was not possible that Lincoln was four inches taller. In a letter to his son, Strevell described how he carefully measured Lincoln, who was standing in his stocking feet with his back to the door casing. Using a two-foot rule on top of his head, he found Lincoln to be "exactly six feet four."
Courtesy of City of Pontiac
LINCOLN WAS ENTERTAINED January 27, 1860, at a reception at the home of Jason Strevell, 401 W. Livingston St., following a speech at the Presbyterian Church. The house was built in 1854 in the Carpenter Gothic Style. Strevell was born in New York of Dutch stock, was admitted to the bar in 1855, and "came west" to Illinois that year, opening a law practice in Pontiac. He was elected to the board of trustees when Pontiac was incorporated as a village Feb. 12, 1856. He attended the state convention that nominated Lincoln in Decatur in 1860. He was elected to two terms as a state representative and one in the state senate, where he drafted a bill for the state reform school at Pontiac. After twenty-four years in Pontiac, Strevell again moved "west," this time to Montana, in 1879.
Courtesy of Burpee Museum
This exhibit is made possible through a generous grant from: THE CITY OF PONTIAC
© Copyright 2009 Looking for Lincoln Heritage Coalition

4527A
Haulotte

401
The Home of Jason and Elizabeth Strevell
1858 to 1879
The Strevell house is the only known structure in Livingston
County still standing in which Abraham Lincoln was a guest
January 27, 1860
The following citizens recognized the need to preserve this
historic structure for future generations, and exercised the funds
set in place September 8, 2008
Benefactors
Floyd A. & Alta I. Byrne Trust, Dale &
Millie Campbell, Mary Dievendorf, Richard
Dievendorf, Thomas & Connie Ewing,
Dimerven & Carol Gardner, Isabel Gardner,
Collins & Candy Miller
Donors
Ronald & Karen Fellenbaum, Victoria Gleason,
Laura Schluyer, Dick & Kay Thompson

4527A

4527A
Haulotte
STRICKLER HOUSE
LINCOLN

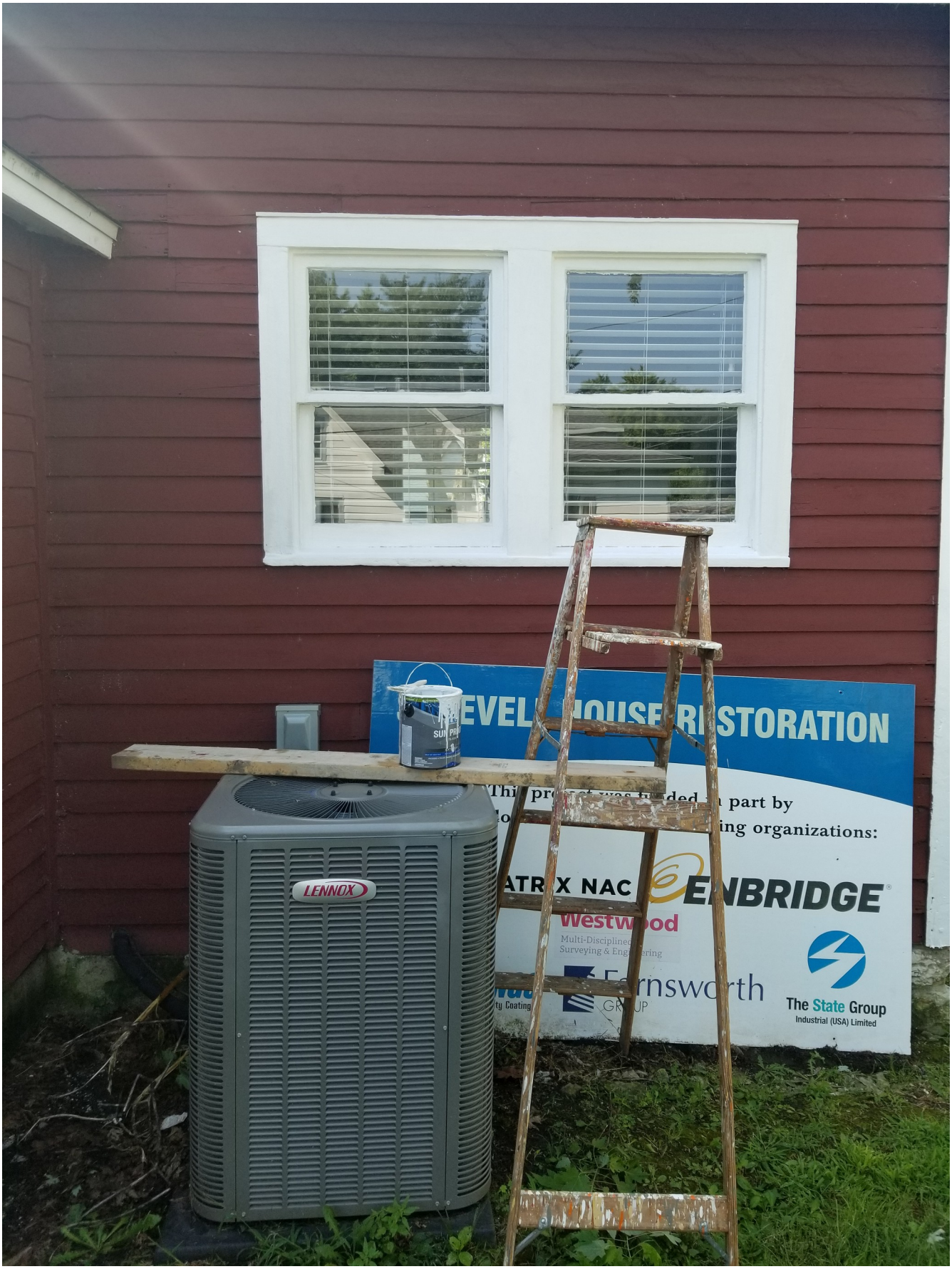
Sill on front 2nd story hinged windows needed painting badly

Back steps on East Side

North side steps

Unpainted window filler board on restroom

SUN PROOF


LENNOX
ENBRIDGE
Westwood
The State Group
Industrial (USA) Limited

Wore 1/2 the bristles off the chip brush!

Had to remove yellow insulation
before painting.

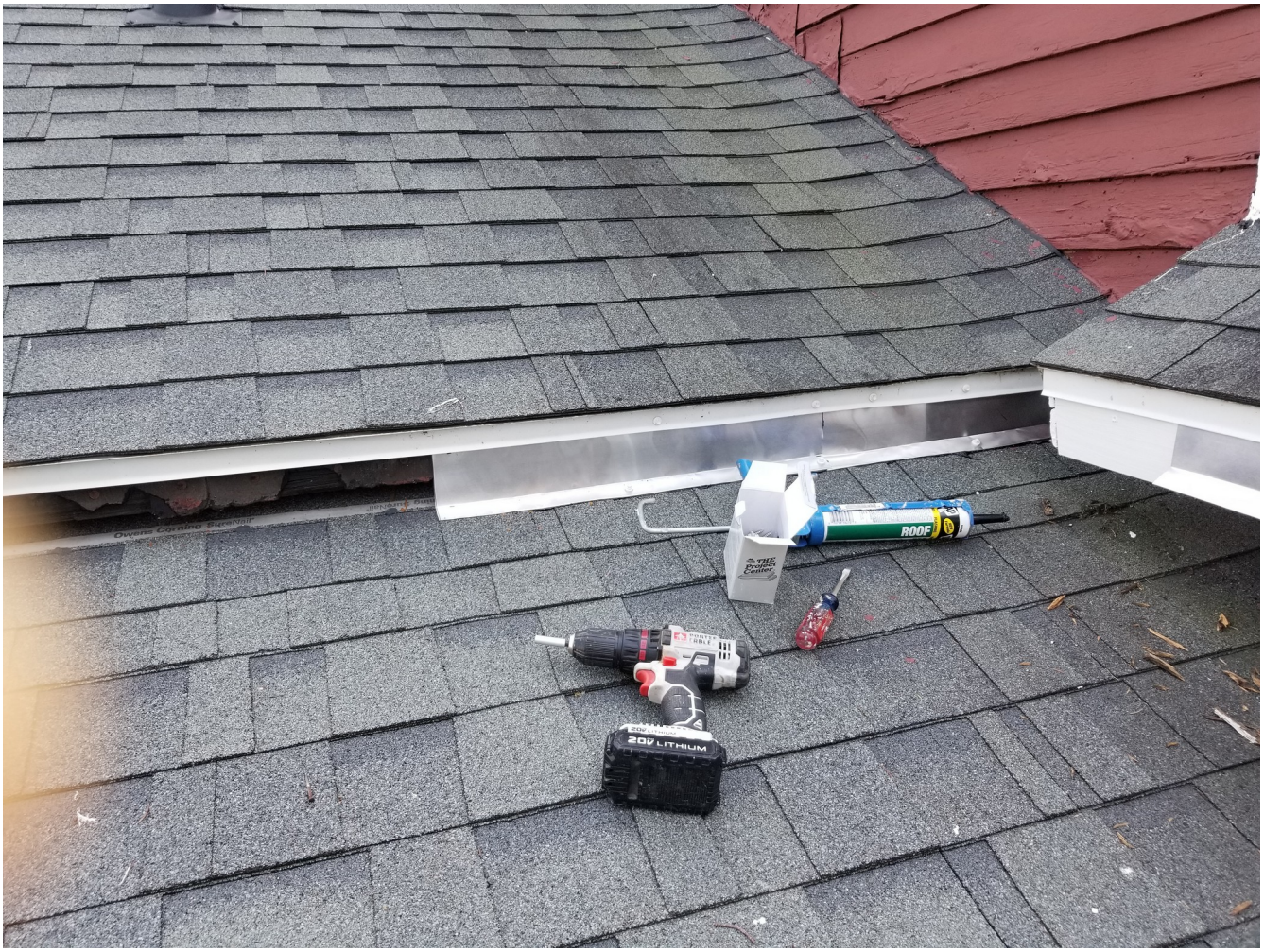
1
2
3
SPEED-MARK

1
2
3

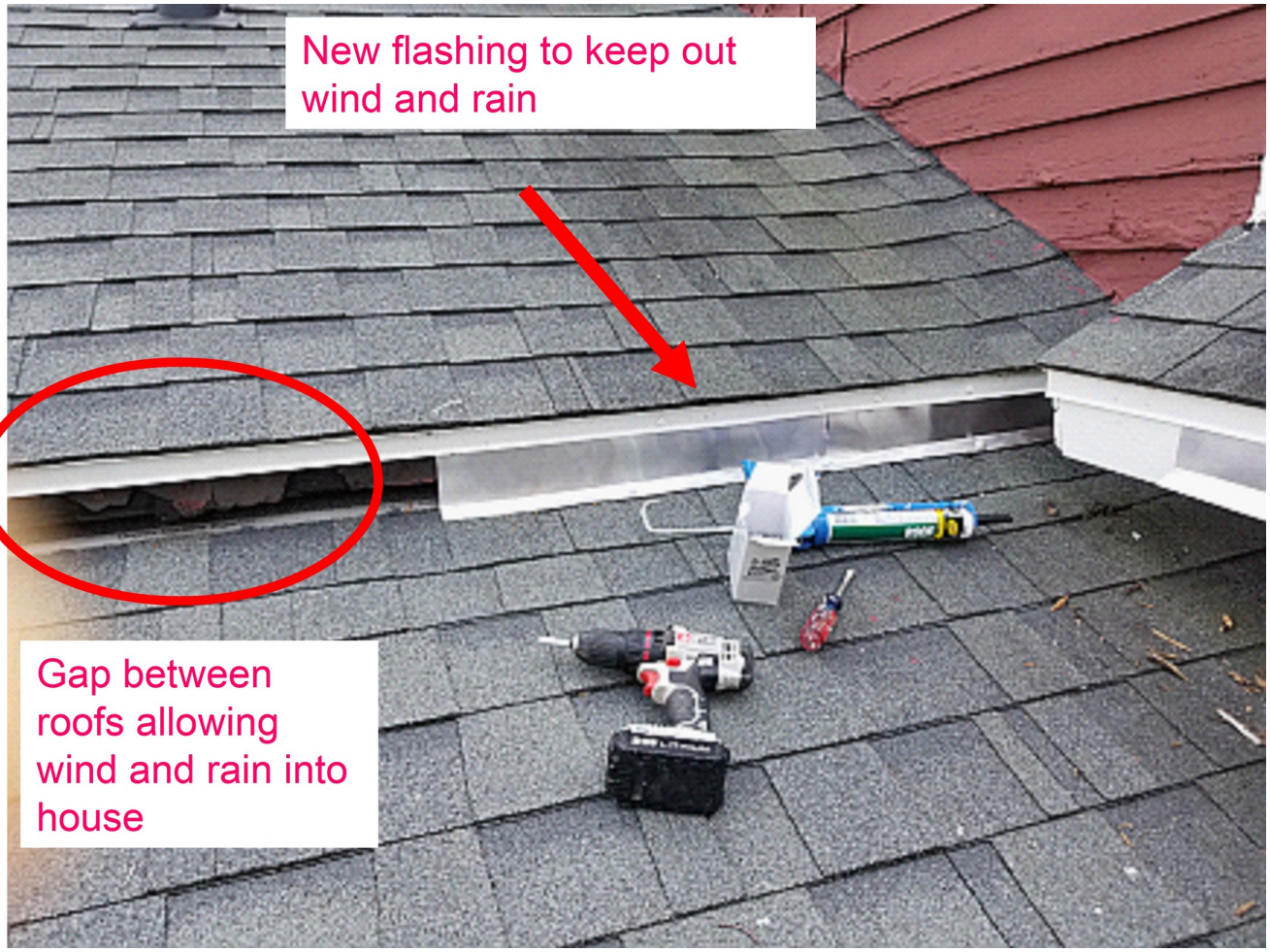
Haulotte
36321

Haulotte
3632

Haulotte
3632T

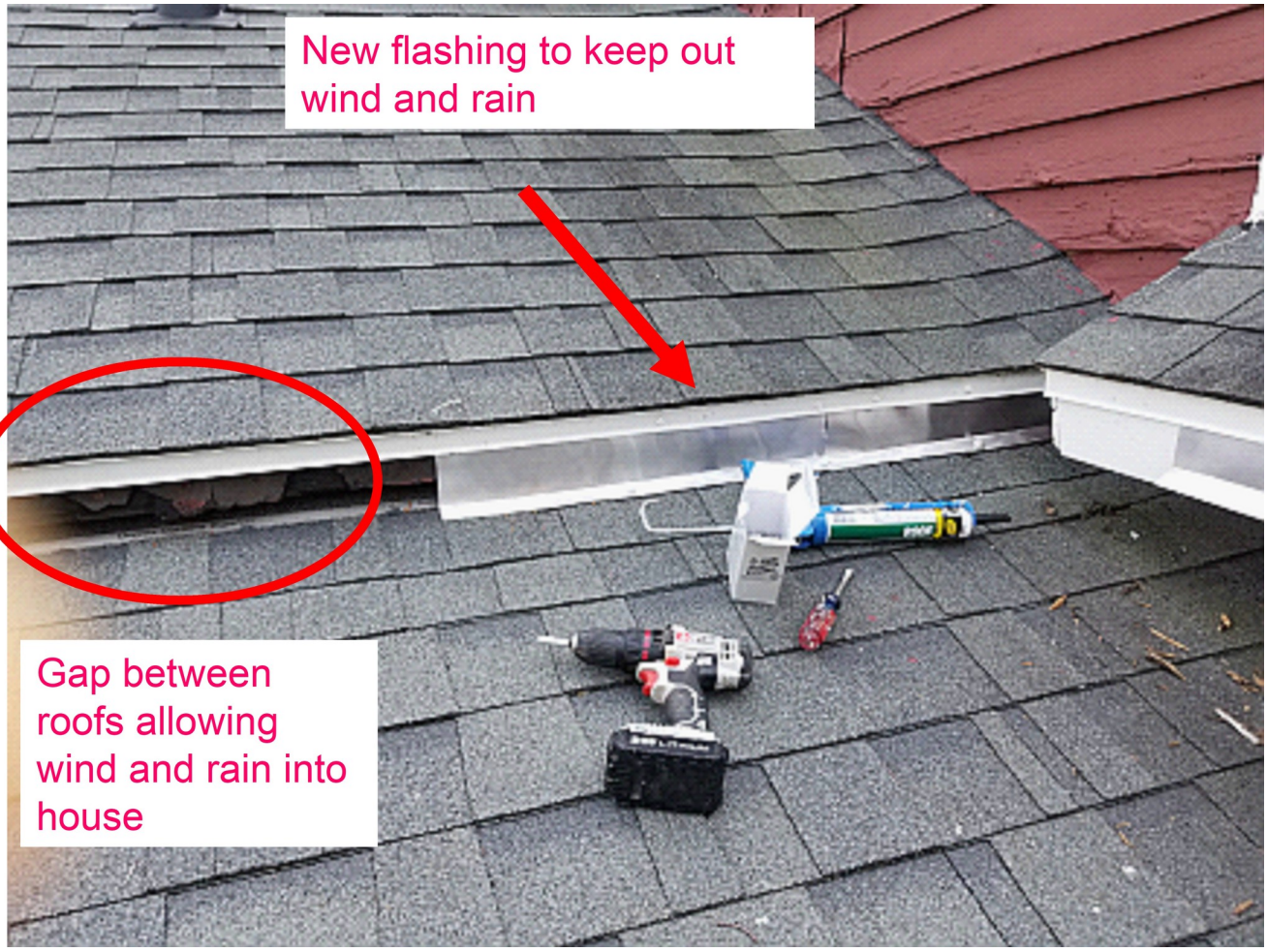

ROOF
20V LITHIUM

LENNOX


New flashing to keep out wind and rain
Gap between roofs allowing wind and rain into house

4527A
Haulotte

LENNOX


New flashing to keep out wind and rain
Gap between roofs allowing wind and rain into house

Used wood pole with brush adapter to paint around electrical service on the man-lift

Misc comments

I was very surprised that the red horizontal siding boards had started to peel badly above the west kitchen room. Water was bouncing off the shingles and soaking the lower boards each rain, causing them to decay the fastest.

I researched wood siding houses further and found that most building codes and/or inspectors require at least 2.5 inches clearance between the shingles and the mating horizontal siding, to avoid fast decay of the siding near the shingles.

A contractor out east solved this problem on an older house by scribing a line about 8.5 inches above the shingles, then setting his portable circular saw to cut only deep enough to cut the siding and not the wall studs. He removed the wood siding, installed his flashing, then about 3 inches above the shingles, installed a new 1x6 or ¾ by 5.5 inch actual side trim board. Someday, the Strevell house should probably get this same treatment.

By the way, internet searches said the worst fix for having the shingles touch the wood siding, was to caulk the joint……..because the caulking usually fails in a few years. This is what we have now on the Strevell house.